CLAIMS

Having thus described our invention, what we claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:

1   1.   A computing system including operating system
2   software configurable for controlling different
3   computer hardware, comprising:
4   (a) a processor;
5   (b) at least one storage device;
6   (c) a software operating system operable in a plurality of
7   different computer hardware configurations, the
8   software operating system having modifiable system
9   initialization information stored in the at least one
10   storage device; and
11 (d) a system enabler containing information for
12   configuring the software operating system for a
13   computer hardware configuration.

1   2.   The computing system according to claim 1, wherein
2   the system enabler is stored in a nonvolatile read-
3   write memory storage device.

1   3.   The computing system according to claim 1, wherein
2   the system enabler is stored in a read only memory.

1   4.   The computing system according to claim 1, wherein
2   the system enabler includes selectable software
3   patches and resources.

1 5. The computing system according to claim 1, including
2   processor means for transferring the software
3   operating system and system enabler from a storage
4   device to a random access memory.

1 6. The computing system according to claim 1, including
2   a plurality of system enablers containing date and
3   hardware compatibility information.

1 7. The computing system according to claim 6, wherein
2   the software operating system utilizes a particular
3   system enabler.

1 8. A method for modifying a generic software operating
2   system to control a plurality of computer hardware
3   systems, comprising the steps of:
4 (a) storing a software operating system and a computer
5   hardware system enabler on a storage device;
6 (b) transferring the software operating system and
7   system enabler from the storage device; and
8 (c) modifying the software operating system, with
9   information from the system enabler file, to adapt the
10   software operating system for operation on a
11   computer hardware system.

1 9. The method of claim 8, including the steps of:
2 (a) storing a plurality of system enablers containing
3 computer hardware compatibility information and
4 selection criteria in computer system nonvolatile
5 read-write memory; and
6 (b) selecting from said plurality of system enablers a
7 system enabler file having compatible information
8 corresponding to a computer hardware configuration.

1 10. A method for providing a computing system, including
2 operating system software, configurable with a
3 system enabler to control different computers,
4 comprising the steps of:
5 (a) selecting a system enabler; and
6 (b) configuring the operating system software to control
7 a computer hardware configuration using the selected
8 system enabler.

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1 11. The method of claim 10 wherein the system enabler is
2 stored in a nonvolatile read-write memory device.

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1 12. The method of claim 10 wherein the system enabler is
2 stored in a read only memory.

1 13. The method of claim 10 wherein the system enabler
2 includes selectable software patches and resources.

1 14. The method of claim 10, including the step of
2   transferring the operating system software and
3   system enabler from a storage device to a random
4   access memory.

1 15. The method of claim 10, including the step of
2   providing a plurality of system enablers having
3   selection criteria and hardware compatibility
4   information.

1 16. The method of claim 15 wherein the software
2   operating system utilizes the system enabler with a
3   most recent date-time stamp.

1 17. The method of claim 10 wherein the system enabler
2   contains information corresponding to a machine
3   state.

1 18. The method of claim 17 wherein the software
2   operating system utilizes the system enabler with a
3   most recent date-time stamp.

1 19. The method of claim 10 wherein the system enabler
2   contains information corresponding to selection
3   criteria.

1 20. The method of claim 19 wherein the software
2   operating system utilizes the system enabler with a
3   most appropriate selection criteria.